REMARKS

To simplify the issues herein, the number of claims has been reduced from 36 to 13. New independent apparatus claim 53 and its dependent claims 54-60, as well as independent method claim 61, are directed to the "mode selection" feature, as detailed below. New independent claims 62, 63, 65, as well as dependent claim 64, are directed to devices having an"unenergized display panel", as also detailed below.

Claims 53 and 61 recite that the projected bit-mapped two-dimensional image is "related to the indicium" that was read during the reading mode, and that the projected images are "different for the different indicia".

By contrast, U.S. Patent No. 5,600,121 to Kahn, the principal reference relied on to reject the corresponding canceled claim 1, discloses an aiming laser 16 operative for producing an aiming beam that creates a visible aiming point or an aiming line (col. 10, line 14) on the symbol 14. No matter what the symbol, the same aiming point or aiming line is always created so that the symbol is properly targeted by the aiming beam.

The Examiner has compared Kahn's aiming mode to applicant's display mode. Yet, as now more clearly recited in the claims 53 and 61, Kahn's aiming mode cannot compare to applicant's display mode because Kahn always produces the same aiming point, or the same aiming line, whereas the applicants produce different images for different indicia, and each image is related to the indicium being read.

The Examiner relied on IEEE as a secondary reference and argued that the display "UDC" produced by the IEEE reference could replace Kahn's aiming circuit. First of all, applicants cannot appreciate the motivation to replace an aiming spot or line, which is used for target

alignment, with the letters "UDC", which cannot usefully serve for targeting anything. In any event, IEEE does not teach or suggest the display of different images for different indicia being read.

Allowance of claims 53-61 is therefore respectfully requested.

As for claims 62-65, these claims recite that the display panel is "connected to the housing" and is "electrically unenergized" during the display mode. By contrast, U.S. Patent No. 6,122,023 to Chen was relied on for its teaching of a projection display screen 54 on which an image is projected from a remote image source 52. As the Examiner noted, Chen's screen 54 is a liquid crystal display which must be connected to a high frequency, low voltage, electrical source 38 operative for vibrating molecules of the liquid crystal material during the display mode. Applicants' display is not electrically energized.

Applicants previously argued that Chen's screen is not on the housing, but is remote therefrom, as clearly depicted in Figs. 4-5 of Chen. This view is supported by the text, especially at col. 4, lines 58-62, in which Chen described his preferred screen embodiment to be "pliable in form, so as to allow for the rolling up, or storing, of display screen 54 when not in use".

The Examiner was unpersuaded and directed applicants' attention to col. 5, lines 32-38 to support her view that the screen may be incorporated into a miniature device. Yet, this excerpt merely states that the "scanning techniques" can be incorporated into a miniature electronic device. In context, the "scanning techniques" constitute the "laser 56, modulator 58, deflector 60, electronics 62, and lens 64" which, as shown in Fig. 5, are all incorporated in the image source or device 52. The screen 54 is never described as being incorporated into the device 52. The screen 54 is a separate, electrically energizable unit.

In addition to the above, claim 62 recites that the projected image occupies "an area smaller than the housing". This is not true for Chen. Also, claim 65 recites that the housing is "worn by a human user". This is also not true for Chen.

Allowance of claims 62-65 is likewise respectfully requested.

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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